



DISASTER NEWS

Economic Injury Loans for Small Businesses

Date: July 2, 2004
Release Number: 04-175

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SBA Economic Injury Loan Deadline is August 2 *Business owners still have time to apply*

FORT WORTH, TX -- Businesses in some Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming counties have until **August 2, 2004** to file applications for low-interest disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). The SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loans are available for businesses dependent on farmers and ranchers sustaining crop losses due to drought that occurred January 1, 2003, and continuing. Farmers and ranchers are not eligible for these SBA loans. However, nurseries that are victims of drought disasters can apply. Businesses in the following counties are eligible to apply:

Montana:

The entire State of Montana

North Dakota:

Bowman
Divide

Golden Valley
Slope

Williams

South Dakota:

Butte

Harding

Wyoming:

Big Horn
Crook

Park
Sheridan

Teton

Applications and further information can be obtained by calling the SBA toll-free at 1-800-366-6303 or TDD 817-267-4688 for the hearing impaired.

These loans are intended to assist businesses in offsetting working capital losses which they suffered as a result of the severe weather reducing the crop income of the area farmers and ranchers. Small businesses claiming to have been physically injured by the disaster are not eligible.

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For more information visit SBA's website at www.sba.gov/disaster.